

February 5, 1963

*Pres 3 L. SOMOZA*

*HALL*

*x See 6 Cuba*

*x Ag 2*

*x Pol 4 Nicaragua,  
Cuba, et al.*

PROGRAM: Chet Huntley Reports

INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA

WILSON HALL OF NBC NEWS WAS SEEN ON THE TV  
SCREEN AS HE INTERVIEWED PRESIDENT LUIS SOMOZA  
OF NICARAGUA.

HALL: "Mr. President, do you think there should be an invasion of Cuba?"

SOMOZA: "There should have been one long ago, a stronger one--"

HALL: "Did Nicaragua help in the Bay of Pigs invasion?"

SOMOZA: "Yes, we did help. We put all our hearts and effort, and we helped because we had a complete promise that all the countries would help completely to the last man, but those promises sometimes weren't there. But it was a good experience, because it has been able to raise the spirit of America, for America to realize that Castro is not something very weak that can be overthrown with another banana revolution, as they call it in the United States, you see?"

HALL: "After you step down from the Presidency, what are your plans?"

SOMOZA: "I've told the newspaper men the other day that after I leave the Presidency I am going to try to lift the public opinion of some of the countries here to form a legion of people, of free people of Latin America, and to convince the governments to become a belligerent government against Castro and to lend their shores and their countries to help train a big Latin American force to invade Cuba and get rid of that. It's not only the responsibility of the United States, and try to get the United States to give us some physical aid, machines that we don't have, but we can overthrow Castro if they don't do it. I mean if they let the CIA do it, they will never do it."

HALL: "Do you think the United States has been too soft on Castro, Mr. President?"

SOMOZA: "Well, the United States has been, in my opinion, as strong as it can be with Castro. United States has many irons in the fire all over the world, you see, and they have to play a world political game. We don't have a world political game. We have our own local Caribbean and Central American game, which is what we play, so we have no ties with anybody."